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UP FRONT

The County of St. Paul No. 19 holding the line on municipal mill rates, using reserves to fill needs.....Page 3

SPORTS

There's a new sport in town, as eager residents learn the basics of Nordic Pole Walking.....Page 5

Elk Point
Review

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Vol. 37 No. 16 Tuesday, April 18, 2017 $1.10 GST Included

Last stop on Elk Point Royal Purple bunny trail!

Elk Point Royal Purple Lodge members wound up their April meeting with the presentation of Easter flowers to the staff at Elk Point Municipal Library, where they hold their monthly meetings. From left to right are Royal Purple members Brenda Diesel, Lena Stepa, Ruby Ann Kittlitz, Lillian Ewasiuk and Verna Lazicki, Library Manager Daphne Schnurer and her assistant Amy Bullock, Royal Purple president Lois Sharek and member Lavern Kittlitz.

Town mill rates unchanged since 2011

VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

The Town of Elk Point is once again holding the line on mill rates, after approving both the mill rate bylaw and their 2017 operating budget at last Monday's regular meeting. CAO Ken Gwozdz said that with the mill rates being unchanged, this year's property taxes "should be within the same ballpark" as last year's. Tax notices are scheduled to be sent out at the end of the month.

The operating budget includes a 1.5 per cent cost of living increase for town staff, who, Coun. Dwayne Yaremkevich said, "Did a great job of cutting back on spending in the past year."

Another factor allowing the mill rate to remain stable is the Alberta School Foundation Fund (ASFF) levy, which increased only 3.56 per cent this year, compared to just over 10 per cent last year, going from $493,639 in 2016 to $511,140 for 2017.

Residential, farmland, condominiums and four-plexes will continue to be taxed at 9.996 mills, non-residential with improvements and linear tax rates remain at 22.500 mills and non-residential vacant land at 24.794 mills, all those rates staying unchanged since 2011. Machinery and equipment tax rates had another small decrease this year, from 18.637 mills to 18.485 mills. GIL provincial tax rates, a category added in 2016 after the MD Foundation category was removed from the lineup, dropped from 7.377 mills last year to 7.262 mills this year.

Elk Point's total assessment this year is $174.456.930, down slightly over one per cent from last year's $175,515,280.

New physician welcomed

Elk Point's third doctor, Dr. Majeed, was on hand at the beginning of the evening, with Mayor Parrish Tung introducing him to the councilors and CAO, who all extended a warm welcome. He hopes to open his practice here in early May.

Participaction 150 grant

Council approved a request from Recreation Coordinator Jena Colbourne to allow her to apply for a non-matching Participaction 150 grant to purchase Nordic Pole Walking equipment. The grant is designed to encourage Canadians to get out and get active during Canada's 150th birthday year, and the Rec Department has a number of people interested in trying out and becoming involved in this activity.

Allied Arts lease

Elk Point Regional Allied Arts Society has requested the Town of Elk Point and the County of St. Paul for a long-term lease of the Arts and Leisure Centre property. Council agreed to sign a 25-year lease.

Public Works tenders

The town was successful in its sale by tender of excess equipment, with water pipes and trailer, a Kubota mower, a sweeper and a welder from the Public Works department selling for a total of $46,335. Council directed town administration to transfer those funds to the Capital Equipment Reserve account, where the amount will go toward future purchases.

(Continued on Page 7)

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WATCH FOR COMING ANNOUNCEMENT!

COUNTY OF ST. PAUL NO. 19

HIGHLIGHTS

April 11, 2017 Council Meeting

2016 Audited Financial Statements – County Council approved the 2016 Audited Financial Statements following a presentation by Shawn Warrington of Synergy Chartered Accountants. Approved statements will be available at the County Office or can be viewed on the County website at www.county.stpaul.ab.ca. They will be presented by the auditor at the **Annual General Meeting on May 9 at 7:00 p.m. at the County Public Works Shop.**

2017 Annual Operating and Capital Budget – County Council approved the 2017 Annual Operating and Capital Budget:

Operating & Capital Revenues	$37,817,729
Debenture & Funding from Restricted Surplus	$2,708,779
Operating Expenses	$29,090,336
Replacement Reserve	$96,000
Capital Lease Buyout	$1,320,000
Debenture Repayment	$904,564
Capital Expenditures	$9,098,274
Surplus	$17,334

Council has kept municipal tax rates the same for all taxpayers for the 2017 tax season, however there have been changes in the school tax rate (mandated by the Provincial Government) as well as a small change in the taxes required for seniors housing. Residents can view the entire budget document and the Mill Rate Bylaw 2017-18 on the County webpage at www.county.stpaul.ab.ca

Transfer Station Free Freon Removal – In an effort to assist residents with yard clean-up, the County in partnership with the Town of St. Paul and the Town of Elk Point will waive the charge to remove Freon from fridges, freezers and water coolers from May 15 to May 28 at all County transfer stations as well as transfer stations within the Towns of St. Paul and Elk Point and the Evergreen Regional Landfill.

Fire Permits – Just a reminder that Fire Permits are required for all types of open burning within the County year-round. Residents will be provided with best practice guidelines for burning stubble and/or brush piles. The guidelines can be viewed on the County website.

Planning and Development – Council approved Bylaw No. 2017-14 to lease Lot 28ER, Block 2, Plan 8023220 for a three-year term. Council approved Bylaw No. 2017-03 to rezone Lot B, Plan 8420294 in SE 16-58-9-W4 from Agricultural to Industrial/Commercial. Bylaw No. 2017-16 was also given second and third reading to amend the Land Use Bylaw to allow for relaxation of the setbacks for two communication towers.

Council did not proceed to first reading on Bylaw No. 2017-19, Joint Area Structure Plan for St. Paul North. Council will be discussing this joint ASP further with the residents, the Town of St. Paul and the Consultant to address residents' concerns before bringing it back for first reading.

Council tabled second reading for Bylaw No. 2017-15 to amend the wording of section 7.18 of the Land Use Bylaw as it pertains to keeping of animals - so that no animals other than domestic pets and/or a maximum of 6 laying hens shall be kept on parcels within the General Urban, CR1, CR2, Light Industrial Residential, and Recreational Vehicle Districts; and livestock shall only be kept on parcels within the Agriculture District.

ACP Grants – The County, Town of St. Paul, Town of Elk Point and Summer Village of Horseshoe Bay were approved for three Alberta Community Partnership Grants for Urban Intermunicipal Development Plans, Parks and Recreation Needs Analysis and Action Plan, and a Street Lighting Retrofit Feasibility Study and Strategy. The County also received approval for another Alberta Community Partnership Grant in partnership with our rural municipal neighbours including: MD of Bonnyville, Lac La Biche County, Smoky Lake County, County of Two Hills, and County of Vermilion River to work on Rural Intermunicipal Development Plans.

Funding Support:

- $500 – Mallaig School Boys for Provincial Basketball
- $1,000 – Gold Sponsor for Columbus House of Hope Golf Tournament
- $30,000 – St. Paul Education for FSLW

For more information contact
Sheila Kitz, CAO, County of St. Paul
At 780-645-3301, ext. 208

Mayor and Council approve $35,738 in grant funding

REVIEW STAFF

A press release received from the Town of Elk Point indicates that the town has approved funding requests from 10 local non-profit groups and organizations through its Community Enhancement, Arts & Culture Endowment Grant Program. The program is funded by money made available through the Provincial Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI) Funds.

Elk Point Mayor Parrish Tung says he and the council are appreciative of the volunteers in the community that help operate and maintain the community recreational and cultural facilities and groups. "It's been a difficult year, a tough year, and the Town is helping where we can," says Parrish.

Recreation Coordinator for the Town of Elk Point, Jena Colbourne explains the selection process was tough. "The Town has a policy in place, that was designed and approved in 2015. This policy was applied to the applications and successful candidates were chosen based on the policy."

The policy is available for the public on the Town of Elk Point's website, elkpoint.ca at: http://files.townlife.com/public/uploads/documents/14378/6-1-15_Civic_Parternships__Community_Grants___Arts_and_Culture_Endowment_Fund.pdf

Successful Grants under the 2016 Funding

Approved April 10th, 2017 by Town of Elk Point Mayor & Council:

- A. G. Ross Arena $13,000
- Elk Point Curling Rink $8,500
- Ag Barn $2,000
- Elk Point Soccer Club $1,000
- Elk Point Theatre Project $2,000
- Heritage Lodge $620
- Elk Point Victim Services $1,000
- Allied Arts Centre $2,500
- Jack and Jill Playschool $2,618
- Pioneer Circle Seniors $2,500

The Town of Elk Point is now calling for applications for the 2017 cycle. CAO Ken Gwozdz explains, "We're always a year behind, so we are trying to catch up." Any unsuccessful, new or recurring candidates are encouraged to apply again. The application deadline for the 2017 Community Enhancement, Arts and Culture Endowment Grant Program is June 15, 2017 at 12:00 p.m.

Gwozdz says it is important for community groups to get their applications in by the deadline, as "there may not be any funding for 2018." The province has not announced if they will continue to MSI funding after this cycle nor have they announced if any similar programs will be in place for 2018.

There was one significant change when the new policy was put into effect that the Town of Elk Point would like everyone to know about, says Gwozdz. "Before, the MSI was focused on facilities. New to the 2015 policy and what was applied to the 2016 grants was that events and community groups can be included, as well as facilities."

"A lot of societies are adapting to the policy by providing financials and seeking out other grant funding to match or increase their overall funding."

Gwozdz thanks the societies for reading up on the policy and applying the current guidelines when applying.

The Town of Elk Point would like to thank the volunteers that work diligently to provide excellent recreational and cultural programming to our community. For more information on and/or assistance in applying for the Community Enhancement, Arts & Culture Endowment Grant Program, contact the Town of Elk Point Recreation Coordinator Jena Colbourne at 780-207-5898 or recreation@elkpoint.ca. The 2017 deadline is June 15th, 2017 at 12:00 p.m. at the Town of Elk Point office, Box 448 Elk Point, AB T0A 1AO

Snow plays havoc with Easter plans

VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

April 14 was anything but a 'good' Good Friday for most Lakeland residents, with heavy, wet snow beginning late the previous afternoon and continuing throughout the day until close to 30 centimeters clogged roads, downed power lines and toppled trees under its weight. Many areas experienced power outages, with Kehewin Cree Nation declaring a state of emergency due to the prolonged outage and the state of the roads.

The Elk Point Volunteer Fire Department's annual pancake breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt went ahead as planned, but unfortunately without this snowed-in reporter on hand to take pictures and get the results. We will try to track those down for the next issue.

Snow plows had area highways cleared on Saturday, and the county plows were busy throughout the weekend clearing the sideroads in preparation for school bus traffic today. Roads in many areas, already wet and soft to start with, are not in good condition and need much drier weather to get them back in shape.

Snowmobilers were the happiest with the weekend weather, which gave them one last (we hope) opportunity to go out for a ride before the sleds are parked for the summer.

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Steak Night – B&D Industrial/Shirley's Trays
$16.00 Adults • $8.00 Children 12 & Under

Legion open Friday's 5:00 - 9:00 pm; Saturday's 1:00 – 7:00 pm
July 8th Annual BRITISH LEE-ENFIELD 303 smle shoot – Register at the legion

County holds the line on municipal mill rates

JANICE HUSER
Review Contributor

While some County of St. Paul ratepayers may see a slight increase in their taxes for 2017, due to assessments and an increase in the school requisition, the municipality has chosen to hold the line on municipal mill rates, and instead will use reserve funds to fulfill budget needs.

According to CAO Sheila Kitz, the feeling from council was that they didn't want to increase the tax burden on residents. Kitz noted that there was a 7 per cent increase to residential assessment (3 per cent due to new construction, and 3.6 per cent due to market change).

And while residential assessment is still on the positive side, linear assessment is down 13 per cent. Tax revenue in the 2017 budget has decreased by $822,591 over taxes achieved last year, according to the budget document.

The 2017 budget projects $40,526,508 million in revenues, and $40,509,174 in expenditures, leaving a surplus of $17,334. This budget is lower than last year's numbers, which were projected $45.1 million in revenues and 44.2 in expenditures.

Kitz adds that what is also interesting is that the county's preliminary budget was much higher than the actual budget, due to the municipality now having much more information on certain items and projects.

The Ashmont to Mallaig waterline was originally expected to be done in 2017, but due to the need for an inter-basin transfer, and the length of time the process is expected to take, much of the project isn't expected to take place until 2018.

Also, in its preliminary budget, the county was very optimistic about the STIP (Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program) funding coming through, and as of last week, no announcement had been made by the province yet on the program. As a result, the county took out the Northern Valley Road project, which would have seen the last seven miles of roadwork done.

While the project has been pulled out of the 2017 budget, if the STIP funding is announcement, and the county is successful in getting funds for the project, Kitz says she will be happy to put the item back into the budget. The project would be done in partnership with CNRL.

Budget Surplus

In 2016, the county was plagued with challenging weather conditions that resulted in less roadwork being completed, according to Kitz. This, along with a winter that saw very little snow, and a few other factors, resulted in a large surplus in 2016.

"(There were) lots of contributing factors," says Kitz.

Council agreed to transfer $1.4 million of the 2016 surplus to reserves. In December of 2016, the reserve was at $4 million. Council then chose to use $2,230,000 from the reserve to fund the 2017 budget.

The 2017 budget also takes into account a reduction in MSI funding of about $60,000, says Kitz.

Public Works

Due to an "incredibly wet fall" there was a lot of moisture on country roads when they froze. Then, with snow in early spring, the county recognizes that many of its roads aren't in good shape.

Administration looked into the price of hiring out some of the extra gravel work that will be needed, but found it would be much more economical to purchase another gravel truck and hire a seasonal operator, says Kitz.

The focus this spring will be to get the needed gravelling done, she adds.

The county has budgeted for 14 miles of road construction this year, an oiling budget of $2.8 million, the replacement of two bridges, and pay out of debt on the Murphy Road loan.

Council has also approved the purchase of some extra equipment, such as a smaller mower and a hydrovac. These purchases should directly translate to a higher level or service being provided to ratepayers, says Kitz.

Water

The 2017 budget includes the completion of the Ashmont/Lottie Lake waterline project that is near completion. The project was funded by the Water for Life program.

Although water was turned on for residents in early December of 2016, there is still some outstanding work to be done on this project, which should be complete by the end of June, according to the budget document.

The budget also shows the water rate increases for residents accessing water through the St. Paul Regional system. Rates will also increase for Mallaig residents.

"The new water rates more accurately reflect the cost of servicing residents benefiting from the water utility services. Previously, the rates were subsidized by general taxes," says the document.

The Ashmont to Mallaig waterline is also discussed in the budget. Due to the inter-basin transfer needing to be done (which requires a Special Act of the Legislature) much of the project will only be complete in 2018.

The budget also considers an upgrade to the Ashmont Truck Fill station.

"Council is also considering a non-potable option for agriculture producers to use with rates much cheaper than the new rates currently charges at the potable truck fill station," says the document.

Administration

The administration budget has increased slightly in 2017. An administrative intern has been hired, and the county will be receiving funds from Municipal Affairs for this position.

Council has also included funds to run the municipal election this fall, as well as conduct a municipal census, since the county believes the numbers collected through the federal census are low.

A washroom renovation will also take place at the county's administration office, making it wheelchair accessible. A grant was received to assist in this project.

Also, there will be land purchase expenditures as the county moves to secure 50 per cent ownership of the Elk Point Transfer Station, as well as land for gravel extraction purposes.

Recreation

The county has increased its contributions to recreation for both the Town of St. Paul and the Town of Elk Point. The county now contributes $300,000 to the Town of St. Paul, which is double what it used to be; and $75,000 to the Town of Elk Point, which is up from $55,000.

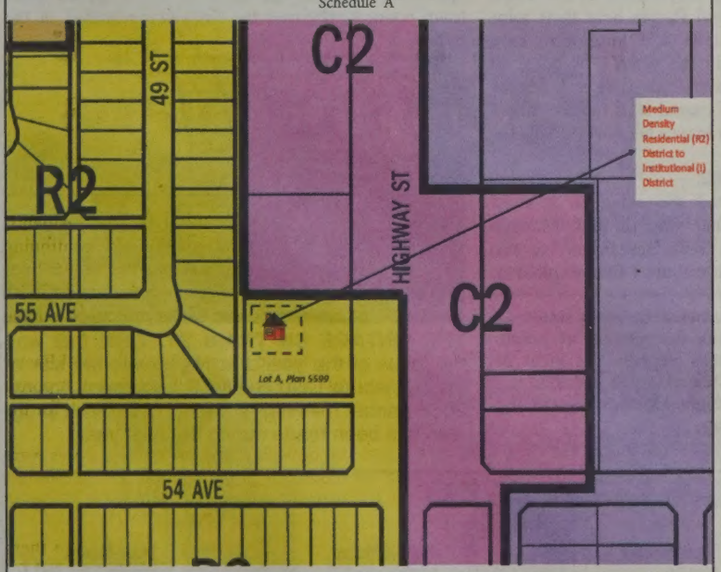
(Continued on Page 8)

Town of Elk Point
Notice of Public Hearing
Bylaw No. 759/17

TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to the Municipal Government Act, R.S.A. 2000, as amended, the Council of the Town of Elk Point proposes to adopt Bylaw No. 759/17 for the Town to enact:

- The Land Use Bylaw 717/13 for the Town of Elk Point is hereby amended by changing the designation of South Part of Lot A, Plan 5599 KS S1/2 NE 1-57-7-W4M from Medium Density Residential (R2) District to Institutional (I) District.

Schedule "A"



A copy of the proposed bylaw may be reviewed and inspected by the public at the Town of Elk Point Office during the hours of 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday.

At 7:00 PM on May 8, 2017 the Council of the Town of Elk Point will cause a Public Hearing to be held in the Town Council Chambers at the Town of Elk Point Office, at which time objections or comments regarding the proposed bylaw may be given and received. Submissions in writing can be emailed to town@elkpoint.ca or faxed to 780-724-2762.

Ken Gwozdz, Chief Administrative Officer
Town of Elk Point
Box 448, Elk Point, Alberta
T0A 1A0

Dated at Elk Point, AB this 11th day of April, 2017.

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MLS# - E3405864 • $276,000

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4825-52 AVENUE ELK POINT
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MLS# - E4057974 • $299,000

BUNGALOW
5410 CIRCLE DRIVE ELK POINT
Completely finished, upgraded, 5 bdrm family home with lg. heated garage, oversize concrete driveway & landscaped yd.
MLS# - E4054084 • $339,000

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SPACIOUS
5906 CENTENNAIL DRIVE
2007 bi-level, 5 bdrm, lg. ensuite, 2 gas fireplaces, completely finished, central air, lg. bdrms, fenced yd, deck, dbl att htd garage.
MLS# - E4049332 • $394,900

NEW LISTING
4908-54 AVENUE ELK POINT
5 level split, 2254 sq.ft., 4 bdrm, 3 bath incldg ensuite, 3 season solarium, att htd garage, custom kitchen, htd tiled floor, grand entrance, mature yd, close to schools.
MLS# - E4058514 • $440,000

ACREAGE
57504-RR62 COUNTY OF ST. PAUL
4 bedrooms, 32'x50' heated shop, 30'x40' barn, 12.23 acres fenced, only 15 minutes from the town of Elk Point.
MLS# - E3403757 • $499,000

BUILT 2010
5806 CENTENNIAL DRIVE ELK POINT
Central air, completely finished, 5 bdrm, wet bar, lg master bdrm, ensuite w/ jetted tub and shower, partial covered 12x27 deck, att dbl garage.
MLS# - E4035860 • $499,900

NEW LISTING
5204 CIRCLE DRIVE ELK POINT
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Editorial

Earth Day: it's come a long way

Saturday, April 22 is Earth Day, an event that according to one source, "marks the anniversary of the birth of the modern environmental movement in 1970." Another source says it is "the day designated for fostering appreciation of the earth's environment and awareness of the issues that threaten it."

Those issues are many, ranging from pollution of air, water and soil to clear-cut logging that leaves formerly treed areas prone to erosion. Urban sprawl, with vast tracts of farmland turned into freeways and housing developments, is another threat, as it leaves less space to grow food for an increasing population.

Much has changed since 1970, when the average car's big V8 engine ran on leaded gas, when raw sewage was too often dumped into streams, lakes and oceans, and even controls on life-threatening emissions of fumes from sulfur gas wells were few.

You've come a long way, Mother Earth, but there's still much more improvement needed.

Your Views

Another round of MSI grants coming up

recreation@elkpoint.ca
Review Contributor

Now that the Town's 2016 Community Enhancement, Arts & Culture Endowment Grant Funding has been given out, (see Page 2) we are accepting applications for the 2017 round of funding. In an attempt to catch up on the funding cycles, we are requesting the applications in by 12:00 NOON on June 15th. For more information email recreation@elkpoint.ca. I encourage every community group, facility and non-profit with operating, capital or project costs that they need assistance in funding to apply. Whether or not you've been successful in the past and whether or not you've applied in the past.

I want to thank everyone who came out to the Nordic Pole Walking information session, there was over a dozen eager individuals ready to learn more about pole walking. Many brought their own poles and were delighted to see more people in town enjoyed the sport.

With the excitement behind Nordic Pole Walking and with the leadership of a qualified instructor, Marguerite Friesen, the Town is applying for a grant to assist in getting a club going. The idea will be to purchase poles that can be rented or borrowed for residents to use and that a regular walk will be organized. Who knows, this could turn into a seven-day a week fitness group. Dream big, right?

One thing that I had told Marguerite when she talked to me about Nordic Pole Walking was, "if you're so interested, I can guarantee there's other people out there interested too." You just need some way to connect with each other. So here's my offer to the community, if you have a sport, a hobby, an idea for the community - come to me with it. I like to think I have some good connections and great ideas of connecting people. So if there's something you think the community needs or that could benefit the community, let me know. I will gladly help you find more interested people. It's all about making Elk Point *"The Right Place to Be!"*

LET'S ROLL

Way Back When...

Spring Classic, talent explodes, $.5 million head start

Here's the news that made the headlines of the Lakeland Review and Elk Point Review for the week of April 17 in...

1987

Jeannine Boratynec was installed as Honoured Royal Lady of the Elk Point OORP and Walter Jendruk as Exalted Ruler of the BPO Elks, taking over the leadership of the lodges from Erica Bender and Wayne Hanson. Town council gave final readings to a new land use bylaw and to a bylaw that would allow increases in water and sewer rates to pay debenture payments on the water treatment plant expansion.

1992

Elk Point Bantam Elks headed off to Calgary for the Value Drug Mart Sprig Classic hockey tournament, with support from their team sponsors, the Elk Point BPO Elks Lodge. As hockey moved off the radar, minor ball moved in, with Parrish Tung of the Alberta Sport Council presenting a 'mighty big cheque' for $2,400 to Daphne Schnurer of Elk Point Minor Ball.

1997

Bill Jennissen was installed as Exalted Ruler and Adeline Zenko as Honoured Royal Lady as Elk Point Elks and Order of the Royal Purple held their joint installation of officers. Acute and long term care concerns were addressed in the town's proposal to the Lakeland Regional Health Authority, with Mayor Ed Buck noting that use of casual staff in busy times "sounds good in theory" but leaves huge workloads for the full time nurses.

2002

Michelle Friesen strutted the stage in a swirl of feather boa, vamping her way through Marilyn Monroe's "Diamonds are a Girl's Best Friend" to win first place in the Youth section at the Talent Explosion, while 11-year-old Brett Kissel charmed the judges in the Junior division to win with Hank Snow's classic "I've Been Everywhere," The Town of Elk Point ended 2001 with a small surplus and a clean audit, according to auditor Barb McCarthy, who presented the 2001 statement to council.

2007

Elk Point Regional Allied Arts Society received a $.5 million head start on their Arts and Leisure Centre, with Minister of Tourism, Recreation, Parks and Culture Hector Goudreau and Minister of Municipal Affairs Ray Danyluk presenting the big cheque to president Don Conrad. Elk Point Elks hosted the final district meeting for District 10, before lodges in that district were divided up to become parts of newly formed districts in a province-wide shuffle.

2012

Months of discussion and determining the area's needs for future expansion and development came down to a five-minute meeting as the councils of the town of Elk Point and the County of St. Paul held a public hearing on the two jurisdictions' Intermunicipal Development Plan bylaw, and with no ratepayers appearing to speak against or in favour of the plan, town council approved the final two readings of the bylaw.

THE VINTAGE CN TRAIN STATION that was the focus of the year's activities was the site of the Heinsburg Community Development Society 2012 annual meeting, showing how much progress has been made during the past year.

The Elk Point Review publishes a variety of opinions as a contribution to debate on matters of public concern. Unsigned editorials express the view of this newspaper's editorial board which includes the Publisher and the Editor. Signed pieces express the view of the individual writer.

Elk Point Review
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Fast-growing sport introduced in Elk Point

Nordic Pole Walking uses more muscles, burns more calories, says instructor Marguerite Friesen

Vicki Brooker photo

CERTIFIED NORDIC POLE WALKING INSTRUCTOR Marguerite Friesen shows Melanie Poulin the basic steps to take and how the poles, this pair fitted with little pink boots over their carbide tips for use on smooth terrain, are positioned to give the walker the maximum fitness benefit.

VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

Elk Point is a town of walkers, dating back to the 1980s when Janice McCaffrey, who went on to represent Canada at the Commonwealth Games and many other competitions, lived in Elk Point and taught local enthusiasts the basics of that sport.

Now there's a new walk in town.

Nordic Pole Walking, also known as exerstriding, "is one of the fastest growing sports," Marguerite Friesen told about a dozen interested individuals at Elk Point Municipal Library on Wednesday, where she hosted an information session on this rapidly growing form of recreation.

"The use of poles while walking exercises your core muscles, with up to 1,800 abdominal contractions each mile, and uses up to 90 per cent of the muscles in your body. Pole walking burns 20 to 46 per cent more calories than walking without poles and gives you both cardiovascular and resistance exercise."

Friesen read an article in the Edmonton Journal about pole walking in February that piqued her interest, and sent her to the computer to check out UrbanPoling.com, where she watched a video that taught her more about the sport. "And then I ordered a set of poles." She later took an online instructor course and passed the Instructor Certification test.

At that point, "I was out alone in the dark on our street" as she perfected her technique, which is much like "cross country skiing without skis," Friesen noted, adding that it's not a new sport by any means, dating back to the 1980s in the US, decades in Europe and used by the Finns to train for biathlon competition. Friesen's daughter Valerie is currently in Switzerland, and sent her mother a photo of multiple pole walkers, saying, "Everyone does it in Switzerland."

As a nurse, Friesen is excited about the "Get Out, Get Active" (GOGA) Challenge, Primary Care Networks' free six-week event running from April 24 to June 4, 2017 that is open to everyone, no matter your age, fitness level or ability, and is aimed at helping everyone to discover the benefits of physical activity in a brand-new way, and feels Nordic Pole Walking fits right in. It also can become a social activity, she noted, such as has happened in some Edmonton community leagues that have developed walking programs.

"I'm a couch potato," Friesen said, her connection with sports being to watch the Oilers and Pontiacs, "but I'm hooked on this. When Mandy Johnson, the Urban Poling ambassador from Alberta asked me what I would do with my instructor certification in my 'tiny town', I responded by saying, 'Our town may be small but our people are passionate about exercise and we have a walking trail!' And I told her I would be contacting our Rec Director to see if there were any grants available to purchase equipment."

Johnson told her about Participaction's 150 Playlist project, which had micro-grants ranging from $300 to $1,000 available for instruction and equipment, an excellent fit for a small community program. Friesen contacted the Rec Director, who suggested forming a club, "and now a grant application will be submitted... we would use it to purchase some poles for use on weekly walks for those without their own poles. If we are successful, we will do another clinic in early June."

Several of those in attendance already had poles, one of them for as long as eight years, but still unused, while another recently bought inexpensive poles "because I didn't know if I would like it." Everyone attending the information session had the opportunity to try walking with the plies and also to learn more about the poles themselves, which extend to fit the user, and can be equipped with snow baskets, tracking baskets or tiny rubber boots, each used for the appropriate terrain, and fitting over the carbide tips.

While she doesn't expect Elk Point's Nordic Pole Walking group to grow as fast as Grande Prairie's, which grew to 115 walkers in just one month, Friesen is hopeful to get an enthusiastic group involved locally, based on the success of the information session.

Earth Day - it's a great day to get out and take a walk!

LAKELAND REALTY
780-724-3030

LAND/ACREAGE INVESTMENTS

55505 RR73 MLS # E4041136
3.81 acres, 1445 sq.ft, beautiful site, serviced, requires some renos.
$179,000

147.64 acres MLS # E4056770
Pasture & arable land located SE of E.P. Fenced. Oil lease revenue.
$325,000

A7112 Twp Rd 570A MLS # E4043210
1 Km to E.P., 11.02 acres, 1330 sqft 3 bdrms, 2 baths, 40x65' Quonset.
$379,000

Twp Rd 562 RR80 MLS # E3428775
21.53 acres, rolling land, creek, great views, between E.P & S. P.
$99,000

56217 RR74 MLS # E4044803
2.99 acres, 1846 sqft log home, 4 bdrms, 2 baths, garage, lg. deck.
$325,000

Twp Rd 562 RR80 MLS # E3428791
9.54 acres, incl. power, beautiful bldg. spots, Stoney Lake area.
$89,900

FOR GREAT RETURNS, INVEST IN RURAL REAL ESTATE

CALL SHIRLEY FOR YOUR FREE HOME EVALUATION!

MUNICIPAL CENSUS
ATTENTION RESIDENTS
COUNTY OF ST. PAUL NO. 19

The County of St. Paul No. 19 is conducting a 2017 census as of April 18, 2017. The purpose of this census is to collect accurate information to ensure that the municipality receives the appropriate grants from the Provincial and Federal government that are based on a population count. Any information collected will only be used for those purposes for which it is collected. All information collected in the census will not be disclosed for any other purpose and will be protected under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact the County Office at (780) 645-3301.

SPERD elementary schools to get more funding for nutrition programs

JANANI WHITFIELD
Review Staff

Elementary schools across St. Paul Education Regional Division can count on more funding for its nutrition programs, with SPERD receiving $250,000 for next year towards these programs.

The local school division was among 14 pilot projects that were chosen to receive a nutrition grant last year at a total cost of $3.5 million. The original $250,000 grant was originally targeted at Ashmont Elementary, but which the province later agreed could be used throughout elementary schools.

"This has helped us expand it, diversify it, give more choices and provide healthy options," said superintendent Glen Brodziak, adding anecdotally, schools are hearing that students are trying options like boiled eggs at school, and going home and requesting these options.

Alberta's latest budget provided $10 million for nutrition programs, and divisions that were not part of the pilot program will each receive $141,000. Funds are not meant for infrastructure or equipment, said Brodziak.

"They want food, they want food in front of the kiddos," he said, adding this does pose some logistic challenges, such as how to store milk without extra refrigeration space, but that the division was "very thankful" for the funding.

The board also noted that staff have been instrumental in getting aboard with the nutrition programs, with trustee Deb Pederson saying, for example, one teacher assistant in Myrnam has been driving from Elk Point to St. Paul to buy supplies for the nutrition and breakfast programs.

"That's commitment," she said.

Bill 1

Bill 1 aims to reduce school fees for parents and students, but it's a work in progress on how that looks and how it will roll out, said Brodziak.

Brodziak is part of a committee of stakeholders in the province looking at where fees could be reduced, and he explained to SPERD's board of trustees at their April 12 meeting that the basic fees will be reduced or eliminated, but fees themselves will still be a reality. SPERD's fees are already lower than other school boards in the province, he noted.

Fees will be reduced for services that are key for core learning outcomes, such as instructional supply fees like textbooks, workbooks or photocopies, while things such as field trips, cultural activities, technology use fees, sport teams or extracurricular trips will not be included, he said.

For high school students, fees could depend on courses being taken; for instance, a student in cosmetology or welder could see "upcharges" in fees for these classes that are more expensive to offer, while a student who isn't taking these options and is taking core classes, may have to pay less, he said.

"At the end of the day, less fees will be paid, and it's a good initiative and more money will be in parents' pockets," noted Brodziak.

In response to board chair Heather Starosielski's question on how school boards will be affected and how funding will work, secretary-treasurer Jean Champagne said the province will provide one-year transition funding to offset the loss in revenue from reductions in fees.

"There's not really a commitment past this year, but they (the province) are looking at ways of dealing with that," he said, adding the fee reductions will be in place for the 2017/2018 year.

Starosielski noted it was a short timeline to make the changes in time for the next year, a statement with which Brodziak agreed.

Bus contractors

Board chair Heather Starosielski talked about the division's talk with bus contractors, noting the contractors seemed "very gracious, appreciative of the fact we have to hold the line," adding it was the first time in a long while that the bus contractors have not had an increase.

However, the board did approve a motion to improve the compensation for those attending PD, from $75 a day to $100 a day.

Bus contractors and the division are both facing increased costs as a result of the carbon tax, noted Champagne in an interview after the meeting. He said if the province had indicated in its budget that it would be recompensing school boards for its increased costs, the school board would have looked at sharing those funds with contractors, but that isn't the case.

"Tough realities right now," said Starosielski.

Later in the meeting, as the board talked about budget preparations for next year, trustees noted another challenge for revenues, with most grants frozen, and a possibility of a drop in enrolment for next year, as a result of a province-wide economic slowdown.

Capital projects

Champagne updated the school board on progress on capital projects, noting that the spring moisture has definitely slowed production, but that construction projects often slow down or speed up throughout their timelines.

Construction crews working on the new Ashmont School did unearth debris "and a low level of asbestos" from a former building at the site. Even though the asbestos poses a low risk to staff and students, it has necessitated following protocol to clear and limit its spread, said Champagne.

Two Hills Mennonite School construction is progressing on track, he further reported.

ASBA Zone

Trustee Deb Pederson talked about attending a recent Alberta School Board Association meeting, and learning about the effects of pornography on young students.

The meeting showed a screening of a family in which the 12-year-old child ended up becoming addicted to pornography, she said, adding it was a harrowing glimpse at the traps that are out there for young people.

"I don't think our kids are being supervised enough."

She said parents should use basic safety, including turning off Wi-Fi at night, not allowing devices in the bedroom, and to watch what students are looking at and what sites they're visiting.

The board noted that the local RCMP is in schools currently, talking about digital citizenship, but parents need to take ownership of their kids' online lives, with Starosielski saying that this verges into phones, iPads, gaming systems and more.

"They can surf the Internet on so many things."

Pederson invited trustees to visit the website fightthenewdrug.org, discussed at ASBA, which offers science, facts and personal accounts to spread the message about the harmful effects of pornography.

Notice to Agricultural Producers

RE: Requesting a Fire Permit when Burning Stubble in 2017

The County of St. Paul would like to assist producers with being able to move forward with cultivating, seeding and other preparations for the 2017 season. Producers are encouraged to consult with crop insurance providers prior to commencing with any salvage, destruction, or harvest operation. If burning of unharvested crop is deemed the only viable option, certain requirements must be met prior to proceeding with any burning operations. ***Fire Permits are required by County bylaw far any open burning.*** Fire Permits are issued at the County of St. Paul's Administration building during regular business hours at no charge. The County's Fire Services department will provide a best practise guideline for stubble or brush pile burning. With any burning, there is a risk to property and life, as well as liability associated with fire and smoke hazard that make pre-planning for a burn a top priority.

The Forest and Prairie Protection Regulations, Part II, Section 14 states the following, regarding agricultural debris disposal:

1. No person shall cause or permit the broadcast burning of grass or stubble until a fire permit has been issued specifying thereon the terms and conditions under which the fire may be set.
2. Before the fire is set, every person preparing to burn windrows or debris must ensure the following requirements are met:

   The area containing the debris to be burned must be surrounded by a fire guard cleared of flammable material to a width of no less than 15 meters on all parameters. (The County of St. Paul recommends a guard of 15 meters)

   No windrow shall be closer than 25 meters to natural grasslands or forestry bush lines. (The County of St. Paul recommends 25 meters)

Exact guidelines will be provided when issuing a Fire Permit. Temperature, wind speed and direction as well as relative humidity should all be considered before you plan to burn.

For guidance and assistance producers may speak directly to representatives of the County Fire Services department at (780) 645-3301 ext. 204 or the County Agricultural Services department at (780) 645-3006 ext. 236.

GREATER LAKELAND RURAL CRIME WATCH MEETING

Thursday, April 20th, 2017
Elk Point Elementary School
at 7:00 p.m.

Wind and Solar: Negotiating Renewable Energy Leases

April 24th, 6-8pm
Elk Point Seniors Recreation Centre
5010-48 St. Elk Point, AB
Coffee and Snacks Provided

As Alberta moves towards the goal of having 30% of Alberta's energy resources come from renewable sources by 2030, a greater number of landowners are being approached by developers to lease land for wind and solar developments. Come and meet with representatives from Farmer's Advocate Office and learn what your rights are when negotiating wind and solar agreements. The workshop will also guide you on how to negotiate any contract with those who want to access your land; noting that negotiating with wind and energy developers is not the same as negotiating with oil and gas.

Call LARA at 780-826-7260 to register
Proudly Sponsored By:

Alberta Agriculture and Forestry — LARA

EVERYONE'S TALKING ABOUT THE GREAT RESULTS THEY GET WHEN THEY ADVERTISE IN

Elk Point REVIEW

780-724-4087
PHONE FAX

Day Away to Greenland Garden Centre
May 11, 2017

Are you interested in getting away for the day? The County of St. Paul & Elk Point FCSS is offering a day away to the Greenland Garden Centre in Sherwood Park.

FREE busing to anyone who is looking to get away for the day.
*Participants are responsible for additional expenses such as lunch, plants and gifts.

PRE-REGISTRATION IS MANDATORY BY April 28, 2017.
PLEASE CONTACT Terry @780-724-3800 (Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday)

On May 11, 2017 we will be leaving the St. Paul County Office parking lot at 8:00 am and Elk Point at 8:30, at the Elk Point FCSS office. Leaving at 4 pm for home.

FCSS Family and Community Support Services — Xtreme Oilfield Technology

And we thought it was over!

doug
BASSETT
Review Sports

Perfect timing for a late snowstorm on the Easter holiday weekend. It was just like the Thanksgiving weekend when we had an early freak storm. The farmers would normally appreciate the moisture, but with many of them still trying to figure out what to do with last years crop still out in the field they didn't really need this snow at all.

Rotten weather outside, but at least there was lots of sports on TV to watch this past weekend with the Leafs and the Oilers both just starting the playoffs and the Blue Jays struggling to hit the ball..... It's going to be a really long season if they don't find a solution and turn things around. But at least the Leafs won their second game,, keeping things interesting. The Oilers looked great in the second game, as did Montreal and Ottawa, so we have something to cheer about.

And here's something else to cheer about. Still about three weeks away from playing ball so three of our talented Atom boys, 'King Kong Konnor' Poitras, Cash 'Paycheque' Capjack and Nic 'the Saint' Penner joined up to play spring hockey up in Bonnyville for the Lakeland Lightning. Their season is short, only going until the end of April. This past weekend they were in Leduc playing in the Thrive Spring Challenge with six other teams and won the tournament gold medal final on Sunday. In the round robin, they won three out of four games, winning over Red Deer in the first game, 'Paycheque' scoring two goals and three assists and winning the Heart and Hustle Award in this one. The Lightning winning the second game against the Northern Selects, 'King Kong Konnor' with a couple of goals in this one. The Lightning winning again Saturday morning, 8 to 2 over another Red Deer team. Then Saturday night the Lightning suffered their only loss of the tournament, losing a close one 4 to 2 to Foothills, sending them to the semi final game on Sunday morning against the Northern Selects and winning this one 6 to 5 in overtime. The first overtime was a five-minute 4 on 4, no one scored, then in the second five-minute overtime period, which was 3-on-3, 'Paycheque' and 'King Kong' were both on the ice when the team scored the winner sending them to the final game against Foothills, which happened to be the only team to defeat them in the round robin. It was a very exciting final, 'King Kong Konnor' scoring the first two goals of the game, the Lightning winning 2 to 1 after the first, then down 3 to 2 after 40 minutes, the game was all tied at 3 late into the third period when the 'Paycheque' would head to the bank and Cash in, scoring the winner with only 1:43 left in the game. Great job boys!!

And now for the K.A. Campbell quote of the week. "Gold medals aren't really made of gold. They're made of sweat, determination, and a hard to find alloy called guts."

EXTENDED SEASON - Nic 'The Saint' Penner, 'King Kong Konnor' Poitras and Cash' Paycheque' Capjack weren't ready to hang up their skates for the summer, so they helped Lakeland Lightning bring home the gold from the Thrive Spring Challenge in Leduc.

Photos submitted

Town council

(Continued from Front Page)

Rezoning

Council studied a request to rezone a portion of a parcel located along Highway 41 from Medium Density Residential (R2) to Institutional (I) to allow the building originally used by Play2Learn Daycare to once again be used for that purpose.

A bylaw approving that change was given first reading, with the bylaw to be advertised and letters sent to adjoining landowners advising that a public hearing will be scheduled before the bylaw receives second and third readings.

The original bylaw rezoning the property from Highway Commercial to R2 was passed in July 2103.

Janitorial services

Nine applications were received from individuals wishing to provide Janitorial Services for town facilities, however the advertising had omitted the information that applicants must provide a tender quote. Three have since done so, and the CAO will proceed with the next steps in the process of determining who will be chosen.

Airport trailer

After there was no interest in purchasing the trailer located at the Elk Point Airport, quotes were sought for demolition and cleanup, with two bids received. There has since been some interest in the trailer itself, so a decision was deferred to the April 26 council meeting.

Unsightly property

A partially dismantled pickup truck located on a public right-of-way was brought to council's attention. The CAO has contacted the property owner and was assured that it would be removed, however it was still in place just prior to the council meeting. The administration was directed to have the truck moved to the transfer station, with towing charges to be added onto the property tax roll.

Bulk water fill station

Gwozdz reported on a "very positive" meeting with the Ag Society board members regarding obtaining 1.12 acres at the west end of the property, this being one of the preferred sites for the bulk water fill station. This and another preferred site will be surveyed by Urban Systems prior to the April 24 meeting with the acting regional director of Alberta Transportation.

Trail project

The province has advised the tow that it is possible to use a portion of their MSI Capital grants for 2016 and 2017 toward the $389,000 owing toward matching the Major Community Facility Program grant.

The construction will include sidewalks with curb, gutter and drainage on the north side of Railway Avenue as well as benches and trees to be installed on the west portion of the trail, with work starting in a few months, and a grand opening planned for September.

Minor hockey provincials

Praise continues to be forthcoming in regards to the recent Midget 'D' Hockey Provincials, with the CAO thanking Doug Bassett and the volunteers who spent countless hours making the event a huge success, and to the recreation director for the countless hours she spent working with the Ag Society on the event.

Gwozdz also thanked Public Works superintendent Jay Duffee for his extra effort, blading snow from the arena parking lot and streets at 5:30 a.m. to ensure that all would be ready for the Provincials, with the rest of the Public Works team starting at 6:30 that morning to remove the snow.

Day of Mourning

The Workmen's Compensation Board advised council that April 28 is the National Day of Mourning, honouring the memory of those lost to workplace injuries or illnesses.

Library Board

Council moved to renew the terms of Elk Point Municipal Library Board members Lavina Ewasiuk and Vicki Brooker for another three years.

LAKELAND LIGHTNING STRIKES IN LEDUC - and this Bonnyville based Atom team brought home the gold from the Thrive Spring Challenge.

GRAND OPENING
780-646-0650 • 5021 - 50 AVENUE, ELK POINT
SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 2017
10:00 am - 6:00 pm
DOOR PRIZE DRAW
Please join Vern for a hamburger or a hotdog & soda
CUSTOM JEEPS ~ ATV REPAIR ~ CAN-AM SALVAGE ~ MARINE SERVICE
JEEP HEADZ
ATV & SNOWMOBILE REPAIR

Spring Opening
Saturday, April 22, 2017 • 9am - 8pm
Garden Supplies • Gift Shop
Indoor/ Outdoor Ornaments
Open 7 Days A Week!
Choose from our selection Perennials,
Beautiful Lush Hanging Baskets and Planters, plus our Garden Seed,
Certified Seed Potatoes and Onion Sets.
Moe's Garden & Greenhouse
Located 20 km west of Bonnyville on
Hwy. 28 and 3 km south on Hwy. 41
780-826-4500

County exploring regional CARES program

JANICE HUSER
Review Contributor

The County of St. Paul is exploring the possibility of applying to the Community and Regional Economic Support (CARES) program, and took time to speak with representatives from the St. Paul & District Chamber of Commerce, Community Futures, and Alberta HUB, during last week's regular council meeting on Tuesday.

As part of the Alberta Jobs Plan, the Alberta government has allocated $30 million over two years to promote "long-term economic growth and prosperity in Alberta's communities and regions through the new Community and Regional Economic Support (CARES) program," according to information from the province.

Funding is being distributed in a number of ways. For example, up to $26.45 million will be made available to communities, regions, municipalities and other eligible organizations; and $2.2 million over two years will be allocated for Regional Economic Development Alliances to enhance existing initiatives.

Kevin Bernhardt, president of the Chamber of Commerce, said he was excited about the possibility of a CARES application, adding the chamber was already involved in doing an application themselves.

He added that a regional application would be an added benefit. A regional CARES grant could help create focus amongst the many groups that exist in the area.

"We feel that with this regional CARES grant, we can make better use of our resources," said Bernhardt, adding, it would help coordinate a common message.

Penny Fox with Community Futures St. Paul-Smoky Lake also spoke in support of putting in a CARES application. She added that Community Futures is part of a provincial CARES program.

Bob Bezpalko with Alberta HUB also spoke on Wednesday, noting that the "bottom line is to bring more money into this community," and the role of municipalities in economic development is critical.

County of St. Paul CAO Sheila Kitz said they have included the Town of St. Paul and the Town of Elk Point in the potential application, so that a regional strategy is sought.

The project has a price tag of about $50,000, with half of that amount being covered by municipalities. Kitz added that the program could help the area move in a forward direction, and not in different directions.

A motion to move ahead with the application was carried.

Mannawanis

County of St. Paul council has denied a request from the Mannawanis Native Friendship Centre for financial support. Last month, the group approached council, seeking assistance since federal funding had been held up.

Wastewater

Council has accepted the lowest bid for the Lafond area wastewater Transfer Station. The bid came from Kichton Contracting Ltd. for $1.1 million. The county's engineers, Urban Systems, recommended the municipality move ahead with the lowest bid.

The project is being done in partnership with the County of Two Hills and a Building Canada Grant that was applied for in 2015.

The transfer station was not built in 2016 because it took a considerable amount of time to determine the location for the facility. The County of Two Hills is contributing $175,000 of the cost of the waste water transfer station.

Fiber optics

MCSNet has requested a letter of support from the county to move ahead with an application to install Fiber Optic Backbones in the area, with Mallaig and Ashmont being connected along the way to Spedden.

"These new fiber backbones will help MCSNet to enhance broadband services to approximately 835 households throughout the county and help meet current and future bandwidth demands for County ratepayers," reads the county's April agenda.

MCSNet is planning to apply to the Connect to Innovate program, which is designed to provide 75 per cent funding of approved projects. MCSNet would be covering the 25 per cent shortfall.

MCSNet requested a letter of support from the county to help strengthen their application. Council approved the request.

Golf

Council approved a request for support from the Columbus House of Hope for its May 27 golf tournament fundraiser.

"It's a very worthwhile cause," said Reeve Steve Upham, when speaking of the request.

Council passed a motion to be a gold sponsor, offering $1,000 to the event.

Stoney Lake Community

A request from the Stoney Lake Community Association to create an area where people can park after they launch their boats at the nearby boat launch is being explored.

The association is asking the county to create an area on the east side of the property. It is estimated that the project would cost about $15,000, with about half that being the cost of gravel.

"The community does a lot there," said Coun. Dwight Dach, as he spoke in favour of the request. Council agreed to move ahead on the project.

Murphy Road

A meeting was recently held with representatives from Elk Point to discuss incidents that had occurred on Murphy Road.

It was determined that many of the incidents were the result of distracted driving, or speed, and not the state of the road. Industry representatives were also in attendance at the meeting, reported Kitz.

More discussions will take place on the issue.

Parks

County of St. Paul campgrounds are preparing to open May 18.

UPCOMING AUCTIONS

Thursday, April 20, 2017 at 10:30 A.M.

IGNAC & EILEEN FREY

Sale Location: (Dewberry) From the Junctions of Hwy 45 & Sec Hwy 893 (West), 3/4 Miles West, South Side.

Thurs. June 1	Nowosad Land Auction	Vermilion
Sat. June 3	Henry & Anna Wall	Myrnam
Sat. June 17	Ken & Shelley Hillaby	Marwayne
Sat. June 24	UFA Annual Clearance	Vermilion
Thurs. June 22	Doug Elliott (Bin Auction)	Mannville

List is subject to additions and deletions. This listing is only a guide and in no way a guarantee of size, description or year.

STEWART AUCTIONS, Vermilion
Ph: 780-853-4725 or 1-800-269-8580
www.stewartauctions.com

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

If your child is five years old, or will be five years old by February 28, 2018, they are eligible to attend Kindergarten for the 2017-2018 school year.

Please stop by the Elk Point Elementary School office for a registration form and/or attend the pre-registration meeting hosted by Mrs. Wood on Wed., April 26, 2017 at 5:30 pm in the Kindergarten classroom.

All new registrations must present a **birth certificate** and an **Alberta Health Care Card** number to the school office before school commencement in September 2017.

Education Week is May 1-5
"Learning Is A Journey"

Mill rate

(Continued from Page 3)

The county will be working with its regional neighbours to do a Recreation Services Study, which is funded by an ACP Grant (the Town of St. Paul is managing the project), "to better understand recreation facilities and needs in our region," according to the budget document.

Fire

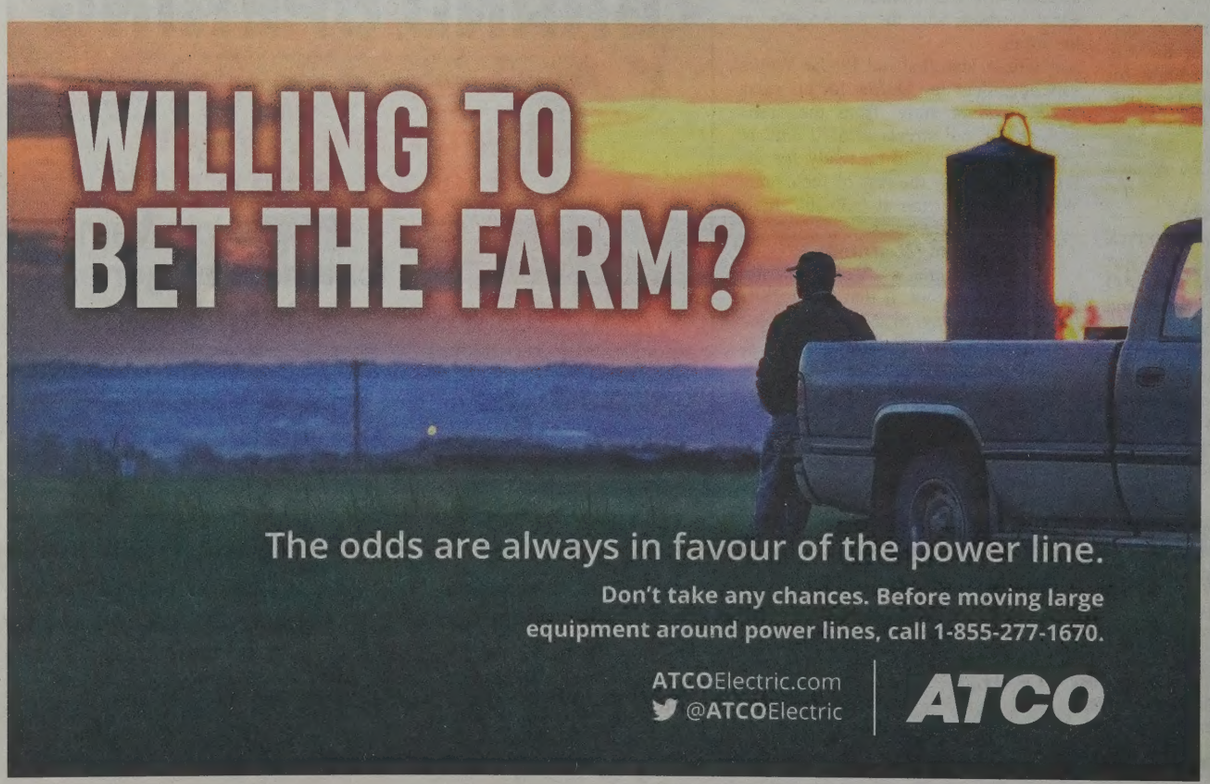
While there is no new large equipment in the budget for fire services, the County of St. Paul has decided to set aside an annual contribution of $96,000 for future equipment.

Health Services

The budget once again sees $10,000 set aside for doctor recruitment in St. Paul, and $5,000 for Elk Point Medical Professional Recruitment. Council will also continue to offer STARS Air Ambulance $2 per capita. Last year was the first year the STARS contribution was made.

Sewer

A small portion of work still needs to be done at the new Ashmont Lagoon, which was built in 2016. Also, a wastewater transfer station is expected to be built in the Lafond area this year. These projects were funded in part by a joint Building Canada Grant that was submitted by the County of St. Paul and the County of Two Hills.



Just when we thought spring had sprung....

Elk Point and surrounding area looked more like mid-winter than Easter Sunday, after a sizeable dump of snow fell on the Lakeland on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, increasing steamflow in the seasonal creek in front of the historical mural (above left), making rural roads (above right) difficult to navigate, and thoughts of an early start date for the water spray park (left) just a far-off dream. Snowmobilers, however, made good use of the white stuff, with the Iron Horse Trail (below) and higway ditches well traveled once the snowfall tapered off.

IN MEMORIAM

WHITE, Liz
Passed away April 24, 2007

Ten years has passed since that sad day,

When the Liz we loved was called away,

Loved in life, honored in death,

Treasured in memory, one of the ***best.***

Forever loved and never forgotten by husband Jack along with the White and Meger families.

OBITUARY

NABER, Albert Georg
July 18, 1948 – April 6, 2017

It is with great sadness and heavy hearts that we announce that Albert Georg Naber passed away peacefully on April 6, 2017, at the age of 68 years. Albert will be lovingly remembered by his wife of forty-four years, Hildegunde and his children, Barbara (Joe), Dorothea, David (Amanda), Claudia (Christian), and Monica (Curtis). He will also be sadly missed by his grandchildren Zoe, Caitlin, Sloan, Zachary, and Savanna.

Albert and Hildegunde immigrated from Germany to Elk Point, Alberta in 1976 and made Red Deer their home in 1996. In Elk Point, he was actively involved in 4-H, Minor Hockey, Community Choir and Church Council. He was the Red Deer German Canadian Club President from 2001-2006. Albert loved farming, was a community man and was always willing to help where he was needed.

The family would especially like to thank all of those who supported and cared for Albert during his long illness.

Those who wish to pay their respects may do so on Thursday, April 20th at St. Mary's Parish, 6 McMillan Ave, Red Deer; with a public viewing at noon and Funeral Mass to follow at 1pm. In lieu of flowers, a memorial donation may be made to Doctors Without Borders (www.msf.ca).

Condolences may be forwarded to the family by visiting www.eventidefuneralchapels.com.

Arrangements entrusted to EVENTIDE FUNERAL CHAPEL
4820 – 45 Street, Red Deer.
Phone (403) 347-2222

EVENTIDE FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORIUM

EGM EDMONTON GRANITE MEMORIALS

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High School Rodeo this weekend in St. Paul

JANICE HUSER
Review Contributor

This year's edition of the High School Rodeo in St. Paul is a milestone for Brian Pederson, the local organizer who first approached the St. Paul Agricultural Society for support in hosting the event 20 years ago.

Speaking to Pederson, it's clear that he remains dedicated to the event, and watching young rodeo athletes develop over the years.

While many High School Rodeo Association events are organized by parents who have kids involved in the circuit, Pederson doesn't. Yet, he continued to commit himself to the event, year after year.

"You see the future of rodeo," says Pederson, as he speaks about the event, which will take place April 21 to 23 at the St. Paul Ag Corral. One recent example of this is Zeke Thurston, from Big Valley, Alta. Pederson remembers Thurston competing at the High School Rodeo in 2012, and Thurston is now a world champion saddle bronc rider.

Over the 20 years that Pederson has been involved with the High School Rodeo, there have been a number of participants, like Thurston, that have become champions in their rodeo careers.

"My story on the whole thing is I love to watch those kids develop," says Pederson. You can see big improvements in the competitors as they get older, and then you get to watch as they move on to other organizations, like the Lakeland Rodeo Association, or as they head into the United States to compete on the world stage.

And while participants used to compete from Grade 9 to Grade 12, this year that will change.

On Friday, the action will begin at 1 p.m. A wrangler junior rodeo for junior high aged kids will take place. This portion of the event will feature kids from Grades 6 to 9.

There will be a "full slate of events" taking place on Friday, says Pederson.

Spectators will see every calibre of athlete at the event, from those just starting out, to some who are more experienced.

"It's a place for them to start. It's a place for them to develop," says Pederson.

The St. Paul event brings in athletes from across District 2 of the High School Rodeo Association. Locally, Paul Wanchuk of Boyne Lake and Wyatt Smith of St. Lina will be competing in saddle bronc riding, with Snith and Austin Young of Elk Point both competing in team roping and tie down roping.

To participate in the High School Rodeo students have to be a member of the High School Rodeo Association, but they are also required to be in good academic standing. It is, after all, a school function, says Pederson.

He adds that support for the event in St. Paul has always been easy to come by. When he first approached the St. Paul Ag Society 20 years ago about hosting the rodeo, "they said go ahead," and they've had Pederson's back all the way through.

Also, "we have very good participation from the local people in sponsoring this," says Pederson, adding, "They step up top the plate big time."

In the end, the event really is all about the competitors.

"We do our best to make it a good show fort he kids (and) make it a good place to come and have fun . . . It's the joy of watching these kids develop," says Pederson.

Six weeks to the start of chuckwagon season

VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

In only a few weeks from now, both the World Professional Chuckwagon Association and the Canadian Professional Chuckwagon Association will hit racetracks in Alberta, Saskatchewan and BC for another season. Here's where and when you can take in this thrilling sport in 2017:

World Professional Chuckwagon Association (WPCA)

May 31- June 4: Grande Prairie
June 8 – 11: Saskatoon SK
June 15 – 18: Medicine Hat
June 22 – 25: High River
June 28 – July 3: Ponoka Stampede
July 7 – 16: Calgary Stampede
July 27 – 30: Bonnyville
August 4 – 7: Strathmore
August 9 – 13: Dawson Creek BC
August 17 – 20: Rocky Mountain House

Canadian Professional Chuckwagon Association (CPCA)

June 2 – 4: North Battleford SK
June 9 – 11: Poundmaker Cree Nation
June 16 – 18: Dewberry
June 23 – 25: Wainwright
June 29 – July 2: Onion Lake SK
July 7 – 16: Calgary Stampede
July 14 – 16: Onion Lake SK
July 20 - 23: Little Pine, SK
July 28 – 30: Meadow Lake SK
August 3 – 6: Frog Lake
August 11 – 13: Turtleford SK
August 18 – 20: Lloydminster SK
(Denham Ram Tough CPCA Finals)

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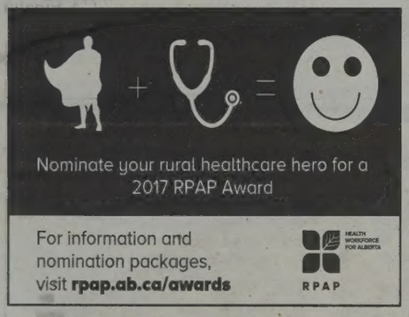

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